



REMARKS

The Claim Amendments

Support for the foregoing amendments may be found in the specification as originally filed, for example, at page 13, line 14. Accordingly, these amendments do not introduce new matter.

Applicants submit that the foregoing amendments address the central issue the Examiner raised in the Advisory Action of April 11, 2001, *i.e.*, that one following the teaching of the prior art could produce the same phytase-containing granulate as claimed. The present claims are directed to phytase-containing granulates that contain a phytase at a concentration significantly higher than that known in the art. Accordingly, Applicants submit that the pending claims are allowable over the references cited in the Advisory Action.

Conclusion

The application is considered in good and proper form for allowance. If there are any questions or comments regarding this Response or application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney as indicated below.

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Respectfully submitted,

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- IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**
(Case No. 97,253-A)